

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SEPTEMBER 21, 2004

**PEW COMMISSION**

The Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care recently issued a report with a series of recommendations relating to ways to enhance our nation's foster care system. A related project, *Fostering Results*, recently conducted a survey of more than 2,200 United States Judges who hear child abuse and neglect cases. According to the judicial survey, "*View from the Bench: Obstacles to Safety and Permanency for Children in Foster Care*," overloaded court dockets, lack of training, a chronic shortage of available services for families, and poorly prepared case workers are significant barriers to finding safe, permanent homes for children in foster care. The Pew Commission made various recommendations that seek to address these concerns, including recommendations specifically aimed at enhancing and supporting the dependency court process.

In response to the survey and the work of the Pew Commission, the Judicial Council of California approved a resolution urging Congress to approve the recommendations by the Pew Commission, and pledged to work with the State and local entities and community partners to achieve the goals of the Commission.

- MORE -

**MOTION**

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| Molina      | _____ |
| Burke       | _____ |
| Yaroslavsky | _____ |
| Antonovich  | _____ |
| Knabe       | _____ |

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors join in the efforts to promote and support Dependency Court reform, and send a 5-signature letter to the Congressional Leadership and the California Delegation, urging Congress to act upon the recommendations by the Pew Commission that seek to improve outcomes for youth in foster care.

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